UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/2873
(PAN/78/002)
10 March 1980

ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF LARGE-SCALE UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA

Project title and number:	Strengthening of Vocational Training Programmes (PAN/78/002)
Executing Agency:	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Government implementing agency:	Ministerio de Trabajo y Bienestar Social through the Servicio Nacional de Formación Profesional
Date of approval:	August 1978
Starting date for project operations:	September 1978
Duration:	Two years and six months
Estimated value of the Government inputs expressed in US dollars:	$547 500 (in kind)
Estimated UNDP contribution:	$376 500
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. In order to increase the productivity of those already employed, as well as of those entering the labour market, the Panamanian Government has selected as a specific target of its social and economic development strategy, the improvement of workers' qualifications.

2. According to the National Development Plan 1975-1980, it will be necessary to create 22,800 additional jobs per year in order to decrease the rate of unemployment from 6.3 per cent to 5.5 per cent by the end of the period. Strengthening of vocational training programmes will play an important role in the achievement of the above-mentioned targets.

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3. The Vocational Training System in Panama has to be reformulated in order to make it operational. The tripartite nature of vocational training programmes has to be promoted by means of close co-ordination among the corresponding government agency, the entrepreneurs and the workers.

4. The Servicio Nacional de Formación Profesional (formerly Dirección General de Empleo y Formación Profesional) is the government agency responsible for the implementation of the new vocational training system, and it is necessary to strengthen its organization both from the technical and administrative standpoints.

5. The Government of Panama has requested assistance -which has been approved under the present project- to cover the needs identified above.

II. The project

6. The development objective of the project is to contribute to increasing the participation of the population in the development process of the country by increasing the technical capacity of new workers and already employed workers.

7. The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) improve the design of the vocational training system as a whole; (b) improve the research, planning, operation and evaluation functions of the vocational training system; and (c) increase the efficiency of vocational training activities.

8. UNDP will provide for the services of seven experts in vocational training for 64 man-months.

9. To carry out the activities for which assistance is now approved the Government will provide qualified professional and supporting staff, office space, supplies and equipment directly to the project.

10. The expenditure compoments of the UNDP contribution are as follows:

	$
Personnel	355 500
Equipment	8 500
Miscellaneous	12 500
	376 500

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/2874
(GUA/74/010)
10 March 1980
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APPROVAL OF LARGE-SCALE UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA

Project title and number:	Co-ordination of the Development Plan with the Public Sector Budgets (Supplementary Assistance) (GUA/74/010)
Executing Agency:	United Nations
Government co-operating agency::	Secretariat General of the National Economic Planning Council (SGNCPE)
Date of approval:	March 1978
Estimated starting date for project operations:	January 1975 (Under previous assistance)
Duration:	Five years and four months (Including a two-year extension)
Estimated value of the Government input expressed in US dollars:	$325 000(In kind)
Estimated UNDP additional contribution:	$422 800
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The UNDP Country Programme has a number of projects oriented towards the strengthening of the public sector. The present project (GUA/74/010) has played an important supporting role in this process through the introduction of a system of programme budgeting throughout the public sector, which includes central government departments, some 30 decentralized agencies and public enterprises, as well as local municipalities. In this way the priorities of the national plan have been progressively reflected in public sector budgets.

2. This has been greatly facilitated by the installation, with the assistance of the project, of a comprehensive electronic data processing system, which has enabled the implementation of public sector budgets to be monitored easily against projections of these budgets and of the Plan itself.

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3. The project has also assisted in the conception and implementation of an integrated accounting system to be applied to the whole public sector, as well as prepared operational manuals and trained more than 700 public sector officials in the technical fields covered by the project.

4. Guatemala is one of the first countries in Latin America to have instituted integrated systems for programme budgeting and accounting, and the possibilities of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) are already being explored with other countries in this particularly important field. Because of the successful results achieved to date and of the need to consolidate this work, UNDP assistance has been extended under the present revision for a further two years to December 1980.

II. The project

5. The long-term objectives of the project remain to establish an integrated system for programme budgeting and accounting for the public sector, co-ordinated with short-, medium- and long-term development plans.

6. The immediate objectives are to: (a) introduce a system of integrated accounting; (b) institutionalize linkages between planning, budgeting and accounting within the public sector; (c) complete the installation of electronic data processing facilities to be used in the phases of budget forumulation, implementation and monitoring; (d) complete the introduction of the integrated budgeting, accounting and public credit systems; e) improve financial administration and management for the public sector; and (f) train personnel in all aspects relating to the project.

7. UNDP, through the Executing Agency, will provide for the services of experts in the fields of public sector programming, national accounting, public sector finances, budget programming, data processing and computers, and for training and miscellaneous expenditure.

8. To carry out the activities for which assistance is now approved, the Government of Guatemala will provide qualified professional and supporting staff, office space, supplies and equipment directly to the project.

9. The expenditure components of the UNDP contribution are as follows:

	Previously approved	Present approval	Total approved
	$	$	$
Experts and administrative support personnel	437 200	399 500	836 700
Training	3 500		3 500
Miscellaneous	6 300	23 300	29 600
	447 000	422 800	869 800

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/2875
(ECU/78/016)
10 March 1980

ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR

Development of Appropriate Technologies for Marginal Rural Population (ECU/78/016)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	June 1979
Starting date of project activities:	June 1979
Planned completion date:	May 1982
To be executed by:	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Government implementing agency:	Fondo de Desarrollo del Sector Rural Marginal (FODERUMA) Banco Central del Ecuador
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$ 550 000
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. One of the main long-term objectives of the Ecuadorean Government is to improve the precarious living conditions of the poorest marginal rural groups whose basic needs of adequate nutrition, health, education, housing, are barely met. About 2,500,000 (or 38 % of the total population) who receive an annual per capita income of less than US$262 can be grouped in this category. This marginal group constitutes a potential productive force which, with adequate assistance, could be integrated into the development process, enter into the market, and contribute to increasing national productivity.

2. Taking into account the above described situation and the fact that the conventional approaches of economic development do not offer adequate solutions to the problems of the marginal sector, the Government considers that the application of appropriate technologies could make a significant contribution to improving living conditions of this sector.

3. With this in mind, the Fondo de Desarrollo del Sector Rural Marginal (FODERUMA) was established within the Central Bank of Ecuador in May 1979 for the purpose of channeling financial and technical resources towards marginal rural sectors. Within the methodology

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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elaborated by FODERUMA, the development of appropriate technologies is considered highly important and it is toward this end that UNDP assistance has been approved for the present project.

II. Objectives and activities

4. The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) identify the requirements of appropriate technologies in the marginal rural sector and possible solutions; (b) obtain a national co-operation system in appropriate technologies, capable of integrating and co-ordinating national, regional and international activities and resources; (c) develop and adapt appropriate technologies in several fields, leading towards improvement of living conditions of marginal rural groups; (d) develop and expand the utilization of appropriate technologies; and (e) promote active participation of marginal rural populations in the development, adaptation and promotion of appropriate technologies, ensuring that the solutions are adequate to the needs.

5. To accomplish these objectives, the project will mainly: (a) produce an inventory of technologies utilized in various marginal rural productive sectors; (b) analyze such technologies vis-a-vis identified needs; (c) establish a co-ordination mechanism at the national and international levels; (d) establish a service for development and promotion purposes; (e) establish and maintain five regional rural centres; (f) develop new processes to improve existing ones, with adequate supplies and equipment; (g) train potential users of appropriate technologies; (h) introduce promotion programmes and new productions systems; (i) introduce adequate strategies for rural population participation in the whole process of identification of needs, introduction of solutions, development and promotion of appropriate technologies.

III. Inputs

6. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, for the services of a chief technical adviser, an expert in community development and appropriate technologies, and consultants. Furthermore, UNDP will finance subcontracts to carry out specialized research and studies; and equipment and group training (study tours) for about six Ecuadorean nationals.

7. The Government will provide national counterpart staff including the National Director, administrative staff, staff for the five centre workshops, office equipment and physical facilities; the raw materials required; operation and maintenance costs for equipment; and expenses incurred for clearing imported equipment through customs.

IV. Financial data

8. The expenditure components of the planned assistance area as follows:

	$
Personnel	378 700
Sub-contracts	56 200
Training	18 000
Equipment	85 000
Miscellaneous	12 100
	550 000

9. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $406,100 of which $225,000 is in kind and $180,500 is in cash, for the first two years.

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